



State of New Mexico

Department of Public Safety

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UPDATE ON RATON TASER INCIDENT

Raton—This is an update regarding the incident in Raton where Raton police officers used a Taser to stop the actions of Jesse Saenz on November 18, 2007. Published reports concerning this incident indicated that the State is charging the Raton police officers with a homicide. This is not the case at this time.

The Office of the Medical Investigator is a separate entity from the New Mexico State Police. When they conduct an autopsy, they use 4 descriptions to define their findings. The 4 findings are: homicide, natural death, accident or suicide. When OMI completed their investigation of this incident, they labeled the incident as homicide. The Office of Medical Investigations definition of a homicide and the same term "homicide" when used under the color of law, are two separate definitions which should not be confused.

When OMI uses the term homicide, another party either knowingly or unknowingly was a factor contributing to the death of an individual. Neither the District Attorney nor the Attorney General has formally charged the officers in Raton with a homicide.

Upon release of this OMI report, New Mexico State Police investigators will interview more witnesses and hope to finish their part of this investigation by early next week.

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